

Application No.: 09/871,061
Amendment Dated: February 20, 2004
Reply to Office Action of: November 20, 2003

MTS-3262US

Remarks/Arguments:

Claims 1-18 stand rejected.

Claims 1-15 have been cancelled. Claims 16-18 have been amended and claim 19 is newly added.

Abstract

As requested, Applicants have now provided a new abstract.

Priority Certification

Applicants filed a claim to right of foreign priority on September 28, 2001. Copies of the Claim To Right of Priority and three pages of the certified copy of the priority document for JP 2000-163811 and a returned stamped postcard are enclosed.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner acknowledge receipt of the priority document.

Section 103 Rejections

Claims 1-18 have been rejected as being obvious in view of Knee and Cragun. Applicants respectfully submit that this rejection is overcome for reasons set forth below.

Claims 1-15 have now been cancelled. Claim 16 has been amended to include features which are not anticipated or suggested by the cited references, namely:

- (a) storing at least one keyword in a storage device **that characterizes a program for viewing by the user;**

- (b) **assigning . . . any arbitrary TV channel number of a remote controller of the user's display to the keyword stored . . .;**
- (c) **storing the arbitrary TV channel number . . .;**
- (d) **searching for broadcast program information, based on the user selecting the assigned arbitrary TV channel number on the remote controller;**
- (e) **matching the broadcast channel number . . . with the user assigned arbitrary TV channel number . . .; and**
- (f) **tuning the video receiver using the assigned arbitrary TV channel number. . . .**

Basis for amended claim 16 may be found, for example, in the specification at page 16, line 7 to page 17, bottom paragraph. As discussed therein, if the user wishes to watch baseball, the user inputs a keyword such as "baseball." The program information storage section establishes a relationship between the keyword and program data. **The keyword "baseball" may be assigned to any arbitrary channel on the remote controller used by the user**, for example, channel 3. When the user next selects that arbitrary television channel, for example, channel 3, the system associates "baseball" with that arbitrary channel and searches for program information related to "baseball". If a program is found that is currently being transmitted from a broadcasting station or is found to be present in storage, that program is provided to the user for viewing.

Knee discloses a system for retrieving and obtaining program information by receiving information regarding programs or services. The system displays program information on the display to the viewer. The user may then select a program that he wishes to view. Knee, however, as admitted by the Office Action, does **not** teach

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means or steps for inputting keywords or obtaining program information of a program related to a keyword input.

Kragun, as stated by the Office Action, teaches inputting keywords by allowing a viewer to input one or more keywords which are used as search parameters. Kragun, however, does **not** disclose a number of features of amended claim 16. For example, step (b) of assigning **any arbitrary television channel number of a remote controller of the user's display to a keyword** is not disclosed by Kragun. Furthermore, Kragun does **not** disclose step (d) of amended claim 16, namely **searching for broadcast program information, based on the user selecting the assigned arbitrary television channel number on the remote controller**. Moreover, Kragun does **not** disclose step (f) of tuning a video receiver **using the assigned arbitrary channel number**.

Claim 18, which depends from claim 16, recites that step (d) includes retrieving broadcast program information of at least two broadcast channel numbers whose programs are scheduled to be broadcast simultaneously. Furthermore, claim 18 recites that step (f) includes tuning the video receiver to **one of the two broadcast channel numbers for viewing**, and tuning the video receiver to the **other broadcast channel number for recording**.

Favorable reconsideration is requested for amended claim 16 and its dependent claims 17-18.

Newly Added Claim 19

Although not the same, claim 19 includes features similar to amended claim 16, namely:

- (a) registering, by the user, a **keyword characterizing the program for viewing by the user**;
- (c) **assigning . . . any arbitrary TV channel number of a remote controller of the user's display to the registered keyword**;
- (d) **selecting**, by the user, **the assigned arbitrary TV channel number on the remote controller**; . . .
- (f) providing for viewing . . . the program searched for . . ., **after selecting the user assigned arbitrary TV channel number on the controller**.

It is respectfully submitted that step (c) of **assigning any arbitrary television channel number of a remote controller of the user's display to a registered keyword** is **not** suggested by any of the references. Moreover, step (d) of **selecting, by the user, the assigned arbitrary television channel number on the remote controller** is **not** suggested by any of the cited references.

Furthermore, step (f) of providing for viewing the program searched for **after selecting the user assigned arbitrary television channel number on the controller** is also not suggested by any of the cited references. Favorable consideration is requested for newly added claim 19.

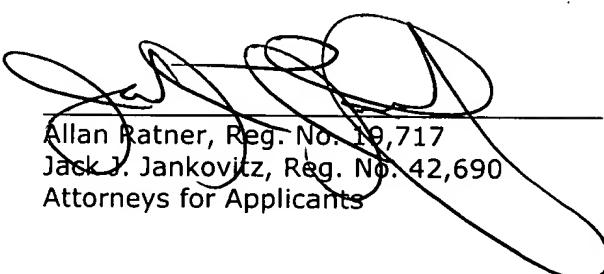
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Conclusion

Claims 16-18 are in condition for allowance. Newly added claim 19 is also in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,


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Attachments: Abstract
Claim To Right of Priority
Copy of Certified Copy of Priority Document (first 3 pages)
Returned Stamped Postcard

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